

October 2021



We've been so fortunate to start off the month with a fantastic kiln opening. We took a break for workshops this month to allow for some creative thinking and planning for the months ahead. Our gallery is finished, staged and ready for viewers to peruse, starting November 5th. Core Clay will also be hosting our in person Annual Holiday Sale! Read all about it below!

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October Gas Kiln Opening Recap

We kicked off the month of all things spooky and kooky with our 5th kiln opening, featuring longtime member Daniel Luck and Director of Education/Gallery Coordinator Emily Hobart!

Being that it was the first night of October, we had Halloween candy, spiced apple cider, and guests even dressed up in costume! It was the energetic and fun gathering we all needed in our lives.



Emily filled the kiln with an assortment of delicately thrown porcelain potion bottles. She used glazes she researched and mixed up herself, and also decorated her surfaces with underglaze and wax resist methods to add even more delightful detail to her pieces. Daniel sculpted stoneware vessels; monsters, witches, goblins oh my! His hand-painted underglaze creations are hypnotizing! The two certainly astounded audience members with their level of detail and creativity. Job well done, Daniel and Emily!

Above Right: The featured artists, Emily (dressed as Ariel) and Daniel pose in front of the kiln before the big reveal.

Above: An audience member holding one of Daniel's wall hangings.

October Gas Kiln Opening Photos



To see the full gallery and recipes used, please visit our website or click the button below.

November 5th: Memorial Honoring John Mason

On August 22nd, the Cincinnati ceramics community lost a dear friend, John Mason. It's a horrible tragedy to lose such a dear friend unexpectedly, and Core Clay lost one of its BEST friends. Our Kiln Opening on November 5th will serve as our tribute and memorial for John.

He inspired and taught potters across Cincinnati, and he was instrumental in getting Core Clay to go big on the gas kiln. He was our first featured artist for the monthly openings.

This event will be extra special, as we will officially unveil our beautiful gallery fronting Montgomery Road, (continue reading on next page to learn more about the gallery itself.)

Second, we will be executing one of John's last wishes at the kiln opening. Using bone ash in glaze recipes is as old as the art of ceramics itself. Per John's request, Laura Davis has created a glaze fit for John, and will be applying it to the last of his bisqueware that he never got to glaze. Staff, members and friends are invited to make tea bowls/yunomi cups to place in the kiln, as John liked to collect tea bowls. (If you'd like to make a cup in his honor, please drop your bisqued piece by the studio by Sunday October 25th and we can glaze it and load it in the gas kiln for you. In addition, if you have a favorite story about John, please write or type the story on a piece of paper and we will read aloud stories as we unload the kiln.

We hope to see you there to celebrate in his memory. Light refreshments will be provided, and there will be live acoustic music. November 5th, 6pm to 8pm, 1912 Hudson Ave, Norwood, OH 45212.

Introducing: Mason Gallery

In our previous newsletters, we've written about how our gallery is finally finished, but we didn't have a name. The gallery had been unnamed since the renovation process began back in January. We knew that the gallery would exist as a separate part of our business and so we wanted to name it something different; it was part of us, but we wanted it to stand out on its own.

Then, August 22nd happened. We were reeling, heartbroken and quite honestly a mess. Throughout our grieving process, you could say there was an unspoken idea, a collective thought floating around in our heads about naming the gallery. What if we named it after John?

We wanted to give the loss some space and time before naming anything. We knew we wanted John to have a permanent place here with us and we knew we wanted to give him an exhibition. Many names and combinations of words and ideas he liked were played with, but in the end, "Mason Gallery" just fit.

On November 5th at 6pm, we will officially open the gallery to the public with our first exhibition of John Mason's work and collection.



November Workshops

November 6th: Back to Center

Our highly requested workshop covers the toughest part of wheelthrowing: centering. Sometimes you work really hard and the clay still isn't centered! Let us help you. Join us from 11am - 1pm and we'll get you confident on the wheel again.



November 13th-14th: Beginner Wheel Boot Camp

Our hit series Beginner Boot Camp allows you to learn all of the basics of wheel throwing in just two days! We teach throwing on the first day and jump right into trimming on the next day. Once your work is fired in our kilns, we make an appointment with you to learn glazing. We've had several students fall in love with clay and even join the studio afterwards!

November Workshops Cont'd

November 20th: Glazing Beyond the Basics

Join us in learning everything commercial glaze! Brush up your "brushing on" skills with Artists in Residence Liz and Sam as they guide you through their favorite tools and methods to achieve desired and delicious results when using commercial glazes.



Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars for December 3rd for our last Kiln Opening of the year, as well as the kickoff for Core Clay's Annual Holiday Sale! Just like in years past, we will be showing several talented ceramicists (and artists of other mediums) from the Greater Cincinnati area.

We wanted to send another reminder that the holidays are creeping up on us even faster than before. It's always best to create early, and create extra! As a rule of thumb, it's good to give yourself a large amount of spare time in case kilns are running behind, so we recommend sending anything you need fired for the holidays pretty far in advance. For bisque firing, aim for end of October and for glazing, aim for end of November. All the extra time gives you leeway to sand, polish, and ship all your pretty pots plenty of time before the holidays come.

We hope you are all enjoying the cool, crisp mornings and the dreamy fall sunsets. As always, thanks for reading along and don't be afraid to reach out.

Love,
Core Clay Staff

